



## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY Mayfield & Five Ashes Community Services (MAYFACS)

Mayfield & Five Ashes Community Services (MAYFACS) acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and charity commission requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience volunteering with MAYFACS or participating in an activity organised by MAYFACS
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in volunteering or participating in any activities run by MAYFACS (ie: Toddler groups; intergenerational projects)

MAYFACS acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy MAYFACS will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure that volunteers under 18 are chaperoned by an appropriate DBS checked and suitably trained adult during their volunteering activities
- ensure that all our activities for children or young people are led by appropriate DBS checked adults and that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment and recruitment of volunteers who are unsuitable individuals
- will not place a child or young person with an unsuitable individual in either a volunteering role or within an activity
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in MAYFACS. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

### Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed yearly or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

POLICY No.

**02**

DATE POLICY REVIEWED/REVISED: May 2021      DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW: May 2024

TRUSTEE SIGNATURE: Signed on hard copy

TRUSTEE NAME (Print): L.Firrell (Chair)